



PLACER COUNTY
SHERIFF
CORONER-MARSHAL



MAIN OFFICE
P.O. BOX 6990
AUBURN, CA 95604
PH: (530)889-7800 FAX: (530)889-7899

TAHOE SUBSTATION
DRAWER 1710
TAHOE CITY, CA 96145
PH: (530)581-6300 FAX: (530)581-6377

EDWARD N. BONNER
SHERIFF-CORONER-MARSHAL

STEPHEN L. D'ARCY
UNDERSHERIFF

PRESS RELEASE

DATE/TIME OF RELEASE: JANUARY 2, 2001

DATE/TIME OF OCCURRENCE: JANUARY 2, 2001

NATURE OF CALL: SHERIFF TEAMS WITH MASONS TO PROTECT CHILDREN

LOCATION OF CALL: AUBURN

CASE NUMBER:

RELEASED BY: DENA ERWIN, COMMUNITY SERVICES OFFICER (530) 886-3592

SHERIFF EDWARD N. BONNER RELEASES THE FOLLOWING:

The Placer County Sheriff's Department has teamed up with the Auburn Masonic Lodge to provide computerized fingerprinting and photos for area children.

The Masons, from Eureka Lodge No. 16, F. and A.M., will work with sheriff's community services officers at fairs, school events, or wherever they're needed to provide the child safety service. Children, with their parents' approval, will have their thumbprint and digital photograph printed onto a card via a computerized system. Children will take the cards home, where they can be completed with the help of a parent. There's also a space to attach a hair sample. In the event that a child is missing, authorities may use the information on the card.

The Mason's service is free and their computer system does not store information for later use.

"We are very happy to have the Masons on board with us," said Sgt. Art Thomas of the sheriff's Community Services Division. "It's difficult for us to fingerprint hundreds of children at these events and their services will help us tremendously."

John Reddick, chairman of the Mason's identification program, is equally pleased with the first-time partnership with local law enforcement.

"We are proud to be affiliated with the Placer County Sheriff's Department," he said. "It is a great way for us to be out in the community together to help protect our children."

Cutline for courtesy photo: Auburn Mason's Ralph Brown, right, and John Reddick, chairman of the child identification program, prepare to photograph and fingerprint a youngster at a recent fair. The local service group has teamed with the Placer County Sheriff's Department and will attend all area fairs to provide the free service.

This and other department press releases are available at www.placer.ca.gov/sheriff.

